

REMARKS

Applicant acknowledges a telephone call from the Examiner requesting review and amendment of claim 6 to provide antecedent basis for the encoder. That claim is amended and the amendment does not reduce the scope of protection.

The Examiner also suggested that claim 46 be combined with claim 49 to add distinguishing features to the broad claim. Applicants disagreed and instead clarified the relationship between the control switches and the input and output networks. Prior to the amendment claim 46 impliedly recited the relationship between the control switches and the input and output networks. That relationship is more explicit in claim 46 (amended). Further details of the relationship are further recited in claim 47 (amended).

New claim 58, 59 and 60 are presented. The new claims include features of claim 46 (amended) and allowable claims 4, 5 and 6.

The Examiner indicated in a telephone conversation on October 13, 2004, that new prior art references would likely be cited. The references are U.S. Patent Nos. 6,718,465 and 5,195,050.

In response, the Applicant amended this application to claim the benefit of the filing date of the '465 patent. Applicant is the sole inventor of this application and the '465 patent.

The '465 patent is not a reference against this application. The '465 patent and this application have the same inventor and were copending. The '465 can only be a reference under 35 USC Sections 102 (a) or (b) or (c). Since the '465 patent was pending and not published as of the filing date of this application, it is not a reference under 35 USC 102(a) or (b). The '465 patent is not an invention of another and thus cannot qualify as prior art under 35 USC Section 102(e).

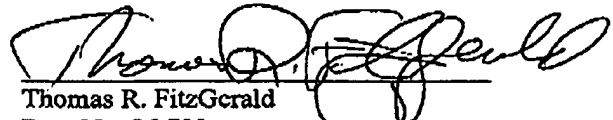
The '050 reference does not show or suggest the combination of multipliers adders and accumulators and control switches as set forth in claim 46 (amended). The claimed invention provides switches to switch the outputs of the multipliers between output adders or output accumulators. In Fig. 4 of the '050 reference the multiplier outputs are all permanently connected to column adders. While the reference mentions changing from a matrix multiplication mode to a convolution mode, the reference still fails to show the structure of claims 46-60.

A notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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